

FREE! ETERNAL CHAMPIONS STICKERS!

PLUS! 100 SETS AND ALBUMS TO BE WON!

sonic the comic

starring
SONIC
THE HEDGEHOG



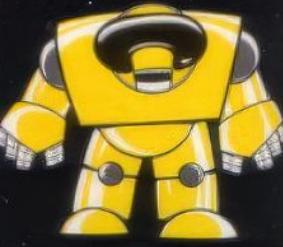
**HAPPY
EASTER,
SPIKEBALL!**



If stickers are missing,
please see your newsagent

CONTROL

Zone



Your online guide to the sensational world of Sega and Sonic The Comic. Hosted by Megadroid.

Welcome Screen

Hey, Boomers!

Hop you're having an Extremely Excellent Easter! You must be enjoying it more than Sonic is, judging by this issue's cover!

Doctor Robotnik just loves this time of year.

On the menu for STC 23 is a free starter set of Panini Eternal Champions stickers. Inside is a chance for

100 Boomers to win the complete set of E.O. stickers - plus an album to stick them in. It's an opportunity no

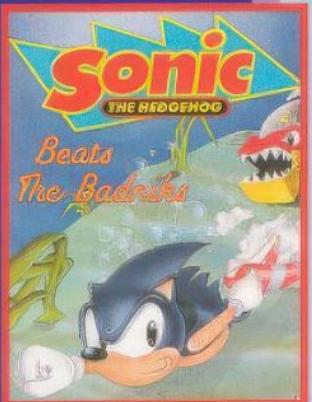
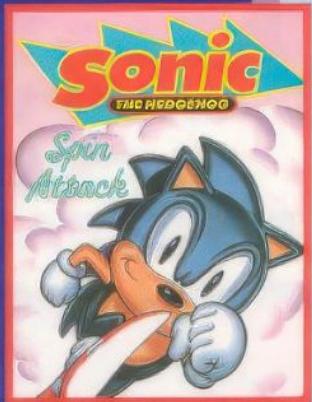
Champions fan can resist.

Meet Captain Plunder and his Pirates of the Mystic cave in this issue's Sonic story. He's major trouble for Sonic as we unfold one of the most amazing Sonic stories yet.

Ever wondered what Sonic's planet, Mobius, is really like? Well, prepare for Sonic's World, a mega new series starting in STC 25. Also featured in STC 25 - a hard-hitting new Streets Of Rage story. More about this next issue. Meanwhile, sneak a peak at this issue's back cover for a tantalising teaser of the action to come.

Enough, already. You're probably hyper enough on all that Easter Egg chocolate as it is. Cool your jets until the next energised issue of STC.

Megadroid



50 SONIC BOOKS TO GIVE AWAY - FREE!

Missed any of STC's sensational Sonic The Hedgehog stories? Now's your chance to catch up with the Spiked Wonder in two new Sonic books from Ravette Books. Each book contains four classic Sonic stories from past issues of STC, printed on high quality paper and with glossy card covers.

BOOK 1 - BEATS THE BADNIKS

Contains: 'Enter: Sonic' (STC 1), 'Robofox' (STC 2), 'Mayhem In The Marble Zone' (STC 3), and 'Day Of The Badniks' (STC 4).

BOOK 2 - SPIN ATTACK

Contains: 'Attack On The Death Egg' (STC 6), 'The Origin Of Sonic' (STC 8), 'Back To Reality' (STC 9), and 'Megatox' (STC 10).

Ravette Books have offered STC 25 copies of each book to give away FREE to the first 50 Boomers who write in. Simply write your name and address clearly on a postcard or sealed down empty envelope and post it to:

CATCH UP WITH SONIC, Sonic The Comic,
25-31 Tavistock Place,
London WC1H 9SU.

All entries must arrive by 30th April 1994 (the correct closing date!). The first 50 pulled out of Robotnik's old Death Egg will each receive one of the Sonic books (sorry, no choices). For those who can't wait that long, Sonic The Hedgehog Books 1 and 2 are now on sale at all good bookshops, price £2.99 each.

Coming soon from Ravette Books: Streets Of Rage and Shinobi. STC will be giving away free copies in the next issue!

To all those Boomers who were hoping to see the new STC Back Issues Service this issue - hold on! Last minute fine tuning of the service means we have postponed its appearance until next issue. Count the days till STC 24!

- Editor: Richard Burton
- Asst. Editor: Deborah Tate
- Designer: Clare Gillmore
- Cover Art: Ed Hillyer
- Managing Editor: Steve MacManus
- Publisher: Chris Power

Published every other Saturday by Ravette Books Ltd., London NW1 2JL Tel: 0171 582 1400. Sonic The Comic must not be sold for more than the selling price shown on the cover. Printed in Great Britain by Bowker Ltd., London. Comics printed by International Colorprinters Ltd., Colchester. Distributed by Amalgamated Press Ltd., London. Copyright © Ravette Books Ltd., 1994. Copyright © Sega Enterprises Limited. Printed by Graphtec Precision Limited. Reproduction without permission strictly prohibited. Complaints/queries: Comix Magazine Unit, Tower Court, May Progress, St Helens, L3 7QE. Tel: 0195 510 955. Advertising Enquiries: Tel: 0171 582 6410. ISSN 0959 3861.

The Sega Charts

All the chart action for all the Sega systems
in every issue of STC.



CHARTS
COMPILED
BY
GALLUP

MEGA DRIVE

- RE FIFA INTERNATIONAL SOCCER
- WINTER OLYMPICS
- ALADDIN
- SENSIBLE SOCCER
- SONIC SPINBALL
- MORTAL KOMBAT
- ETERNAL CHAMPIONS
- RE MICRO MACHINES
- TOE JAM & EARL 2
- STREETFIGHTER 2 CHAMP ED.

MEGA CD

- RE GROUND ZERO TEXAS
- LETHAL ENFORCERS
- NIGHT TRAP
- THUNDERHAWK
- SONIC CD
- NEW MICROCDSM
- SILPHEED
- ECCO THE DOLPHIN
- SEWER SHARK
- RE SHERLOCK HOLMES

MASTER SYSTEM

- SONIC CHAOS
- NEW WINTER OLYMPICS
- JUNGLE BOOK
- RE SENSIBLE SOCCER
- MORTAL KOMBAT
- TERMINATOR
- DESERT STRIKE
- RE SONIC THE HEDGEHOG 2
- OLYMPIC GOLD
- RE NINJA GAIDEN

GAME GEAR

- OLYMPIC GOLD
- NEW WINTER OLYMPICS
- SONIC CHAOS
- DESERT STRIKE
- RE SENSIBLE SOCCER
- MORTAL KOMBAT
- RE SONIC THE HEDGEHOG 2
- JUNGLE BOOK
- SHINOBI 2
- BATMAN RETURNS

SONIC

THE HEDGEHOG

Pirates of the Mystic Cave

Script: Nigel Kitching

Art: Richard Elson

Lettering: Ellie de' Ville

MYSTIC CAVE ZONE. SONIC AND HIS FREEDOM FIGHTERS ARE ON THE TRAIL OF A MISSING AMY.

SIR SONIC? I'M PICKING UP SOME PRETTY STRANGE READINGS HERE.

COOL IT, LEWIS. NOTHING'S GOING TO HAPPEN WITH ME AROUND!

THIS BANDIPIK IS EMPTY. ANY OF YOURS GOT A PRISONER, SONIC?

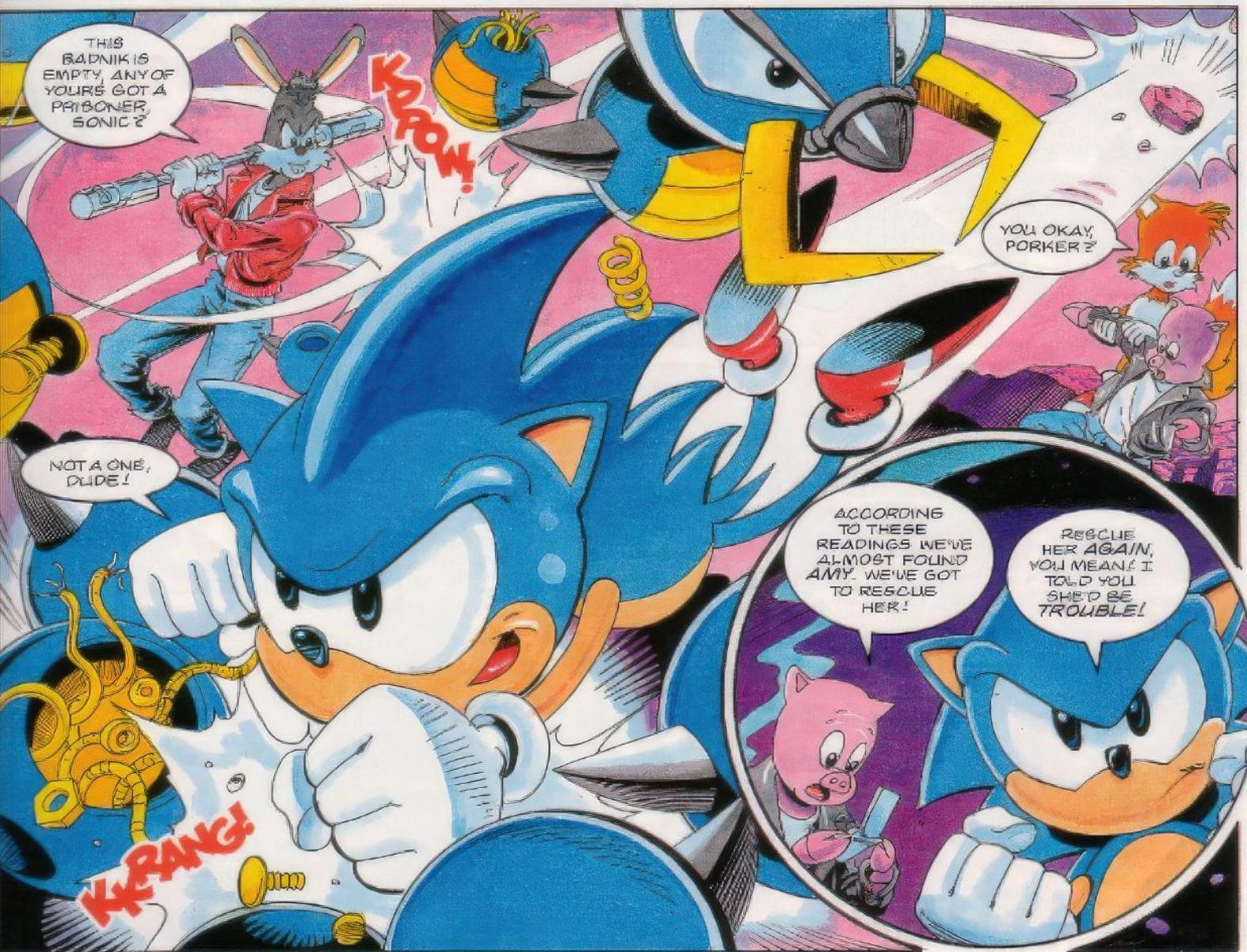
NOT A ONE, DUDE!

RATS! I HATE IT WHEN I'M WRONG!

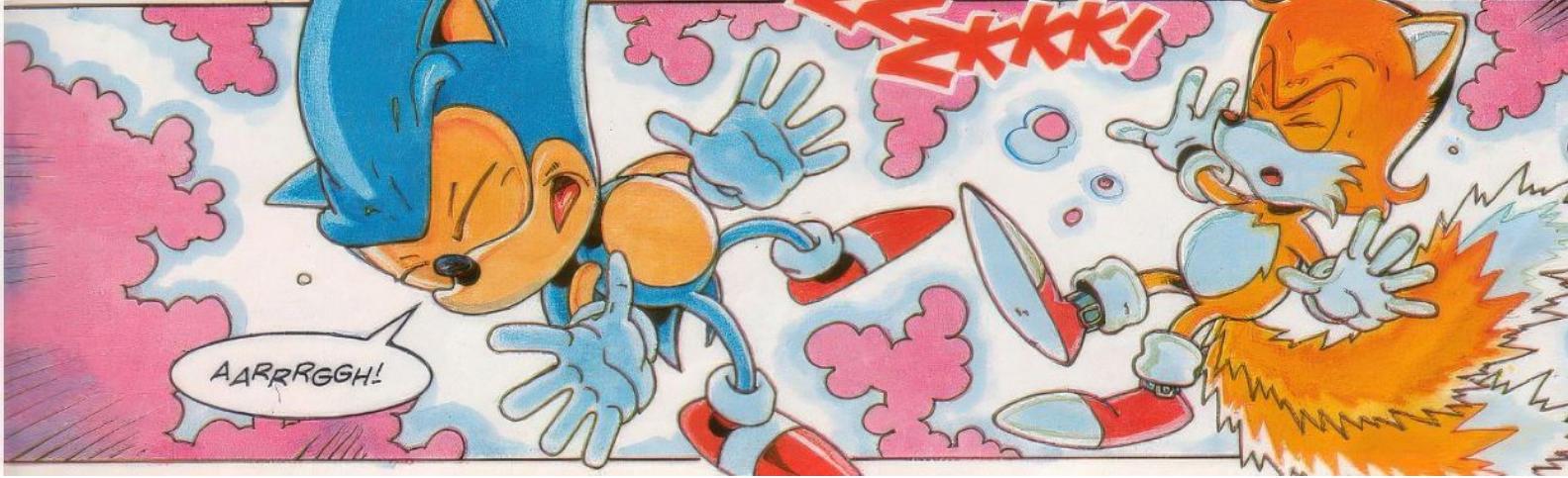
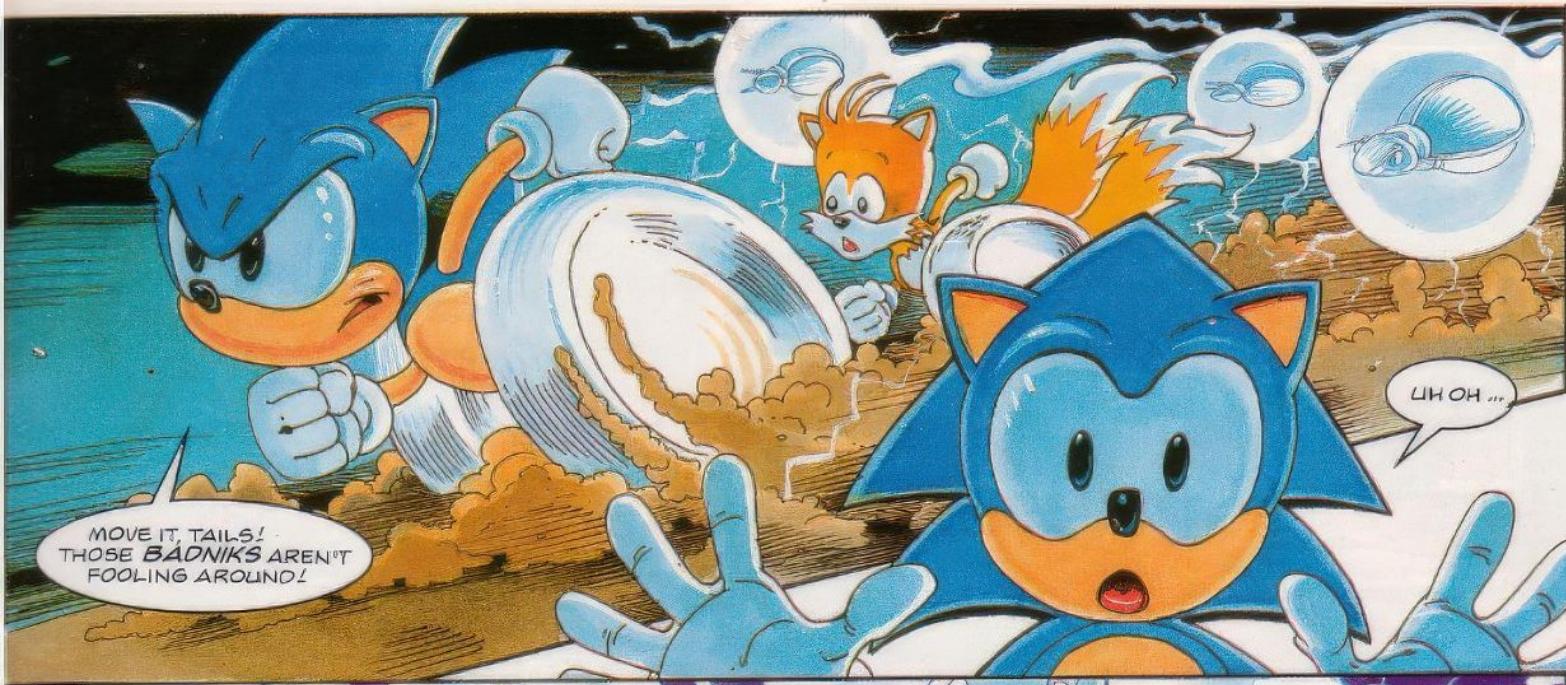
LOOK OUT! CRAWLTONS!

ACCORDING TO THESE READINGS WE'RE ALMOST FOUND AMY. WE'VE GOT TO RESCUE HER!

RESCUE HER AGAIN, YOU MEAN? I TOLD YOU SHE'D BE TROUBLE!







A LITTLE LATER...

OOOOH! DID YOU GET THE NUMBER OF THAT TRUCK?

SO THIS IS THE FAMOUS SONIC, IS IT? HOW DISAPPOINTING...

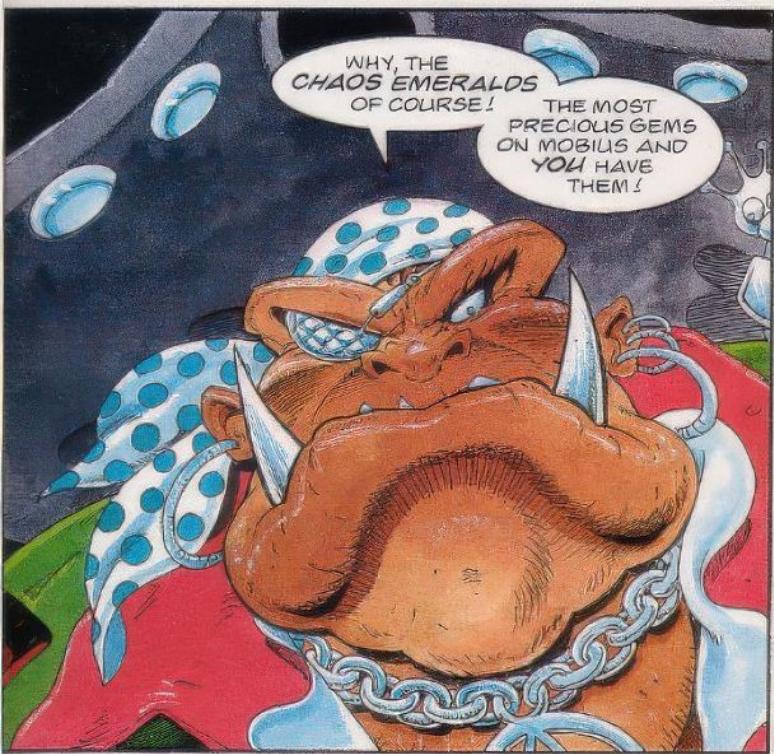
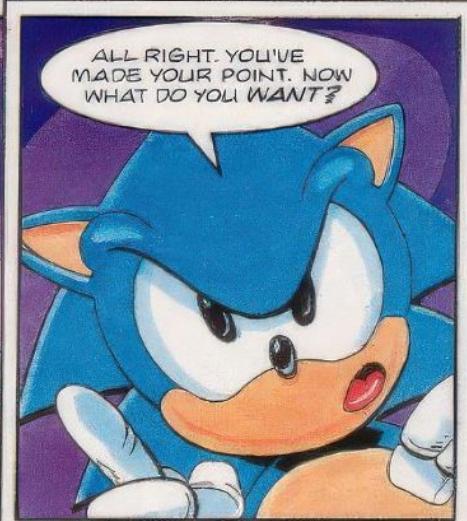


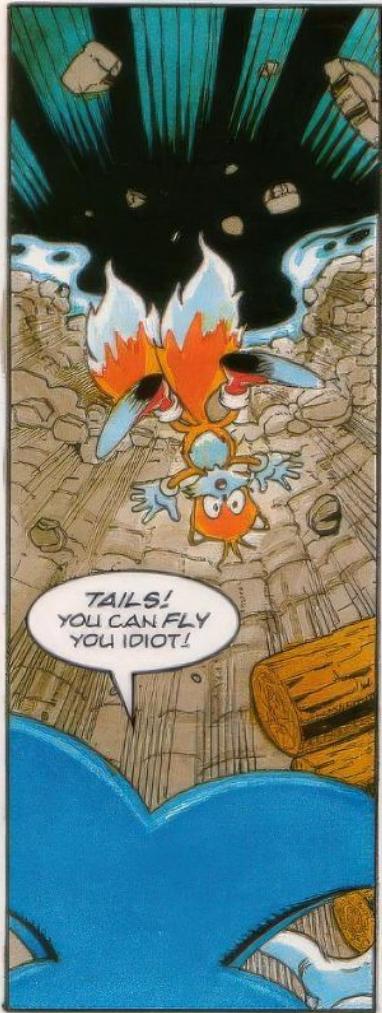
I AM CAPTAIN PLUNDER AND THESE ARE MY MYSTIC CAVE PIRATES!

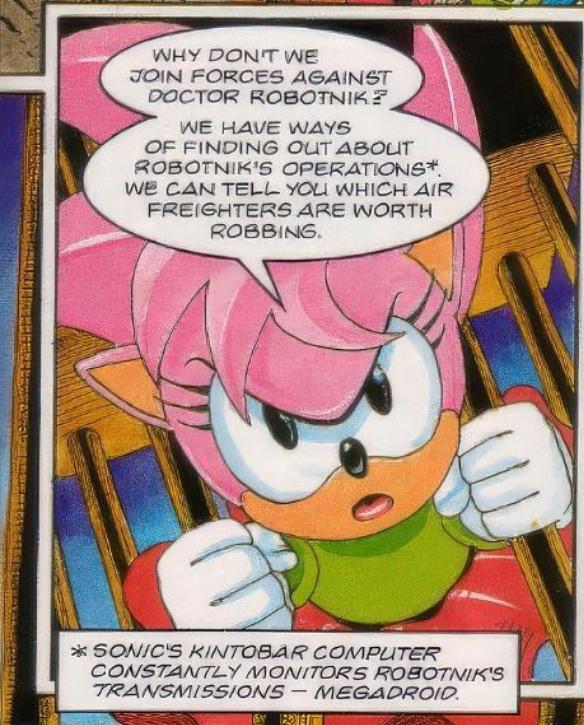
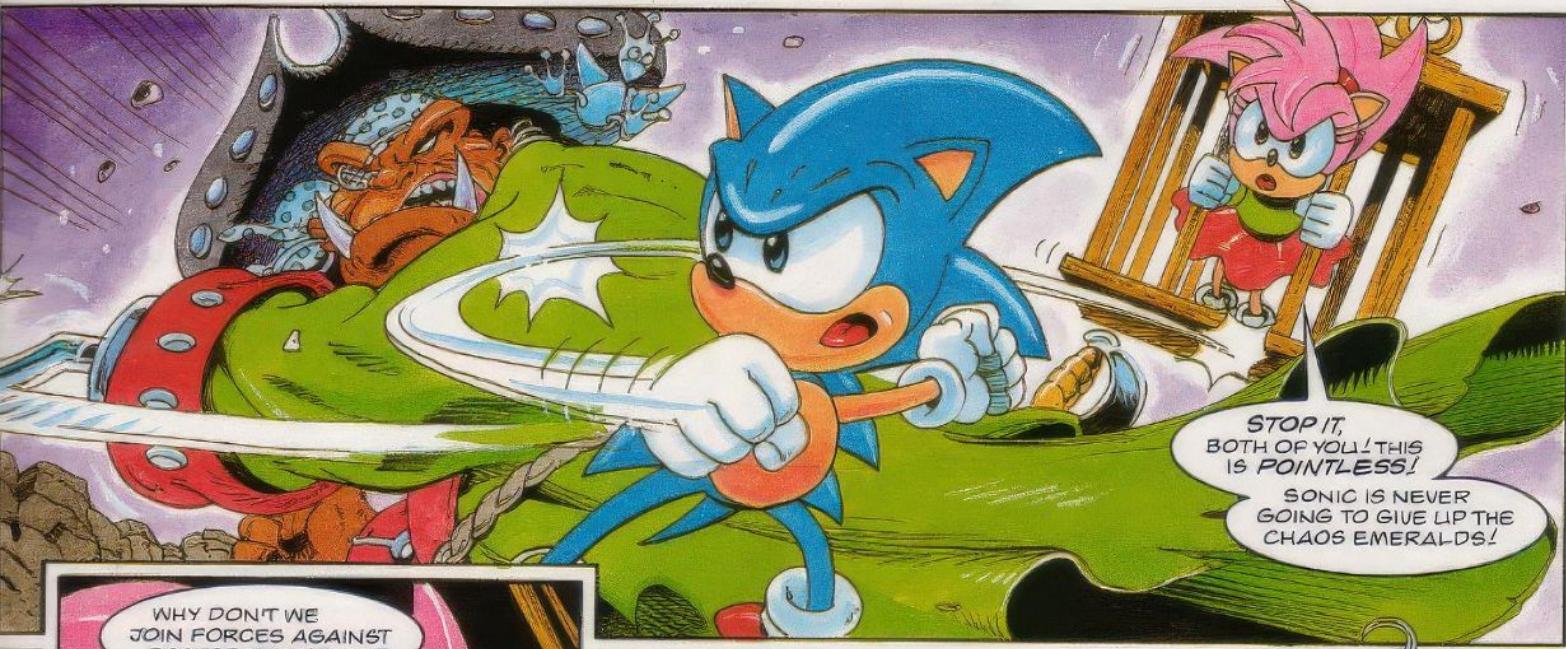
HELLO SONIC! I KNEW YOU'D COME!



AMY!







REVIEW

Zone

Enter the zone that brings you reviews of all the new releases for the Sega game systems.
STC Reviewers this issue:
David Gibbon & Vincent Lowe.

C.J. ELEPHANT FUGITIVE!

game type: PLATFORM
1 PLAYER



Enter into a world of pacyderms and platforms from Europe to Africa with Columbus Jumbo (so called due to the explorer Christopher Columbus).

C.J. Elephant Fugitive! is your basic platform game where the objective is to return C.J. to his herd in Africa. As C.J. was elephant-napped from his family and placed in an English zoo, your mission is to guide him from London, around Europe and eventually return him to Africa.

The game comprises of six worlds, each consisting of three levels and an end of level boss. When in London you find yourself having to contend with stroppy businessmen and overhead attacks from pigeons with the usual digestion problems. C.J. starts off with three hearts, which diminish each time you get hit. However, further hearts do appear at random to increase your energy levels. There is an unlimited supply of peanuts to shoot the baddies with, plus a small amount of elephant head bombs. C.J. is also armed with a macho-style umbrella which helps to cushion any long falls!

The enemies and scenery which feature are relevant to the specific countries; you see the Eiffel Tower in Paris and get to fight off snails and hopping frogs, while in Cairo there are the ancient pyramids and nasty mummies.

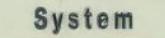
C.J. Elephant Fugitive! is a fun platformer and should improve your geography. However, although it's ideal if you're a platform game addict, don't expect anything original as it's all been done before. - DG.



Mega Drive



Mega CD



Master System



Game Gear

STC Rating System

under 40% - Yawnsville
40 - 70% - Normalsville
70 - 80% - Fun City
80 - 90% - Big Time City
over 90% - Mega City!

FAST FAX

PUBLISHER CODEMASTERS PRICE £21.99

GRAPHICS

***** 81

SOUND

***** 78

PLAYABILITY

***** 76

RAVES GRAVES

The cheapest Game Gear release ever! Yet another bog-standard platformer.

OVERALL

79%

ALADDIN



game type: ACTION
1 PLAYER

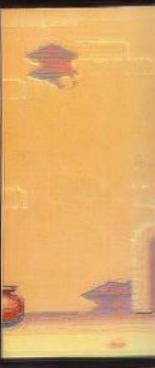
If you enjoyed Disney's film Aladdin you'll be thrilled with the game on the 8-bit Master System, as it closely follows the movie plot. Aladdin features you in the lead role and Princess Jasmin reliving the same scenes but with special interludes that are directly from the film with the same text!

The first stage of Aladdin features you being chased by a guard for stealing bread from a stall. You have to dodge the dreaded clutches of the guard as you leap over barrels and holes and avoid high and low flying desks.

The other stages have you leaping across rooftops, flying on a magic carpet, travelling in underground passages and the palace itself.

The graphics are superb with wonderful detail and colour and are Disney-like in quality (as are the interlude animation scenes). The tunes will have you tapping your foot to the action and the music is also from the film.

Overall, Aladdin is a fun and playable game and the only real downer is the difficulty level, which perhaps the more experienced players may find too easy. - VL.





FAST FAX

PUBLISHER SEGA PRICE £29.99

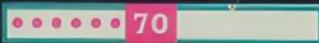
GRAPHICS



SOUND



PLAYABILITY



RAVES : GRAVES

- Just like the movie
- Can be slightly
- easy for the
- experienced
- players.

OVERALL

85%



SUBTERRANIA

game type: ACTION
1 PLAYER



Prepare to play a classic shooter! *Subterrania* is similar in style to a game from the mid-eighties called *Thrust*. As controller, you're in charge of a flying ship which collects parts of a sub and your task is to destroy invading aliens.

There are eight missions to play through; each has varied objectives which range from rescuing stranded miners to collecting special weapons and opening puzzle doors. You are briefed at the beginning of each mission regarding the objectives and are shown a special map revealing where you start and end your mission and what has to be achieved.

The beauty of *Subterrania* is that it involves quite a bit of strategy coupled with arcade action. Because the ship has limited fuel you have to watch out for top ups and limited shields so you cannot ram aliens.

Your cannon can be left to recharge and when rested for a short period, it then delivers more powerful shots. The backdrops are beautifully coloured and the sound is atmospheric.

Subterrania has some of the best action seen yet on the Mega Drive. It is also superbly presented and offers great challenge. Miss it not! - VL.



FAST FAX

PUBLISHER SEGA PRICE £44.99

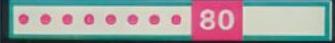
GRAPHICS



SOUND



PLAYABILITY



RAVES : GRAVES

- Great playability and a great shooter.
- Beginners may find the controls hard to grasp.

OVERALL

85%

THE ETERNAL CHAMPIONS



PART 5

SCRIPT: MICHAEL COOK
ART: ION HAWARD
LETTERING: TOM FRAME

2345. SIX ETERNAL CHAMPIONS SEEK HI-TECH WEAPONS TO FREE COMRADES TRAPPED IN 1994, BUT FIRST THEY MUST DEFEAT A BIO-MECHANICAL TAG TEAM IN THE CYBER-DOME.

STAY SHARP, CHAMPIONS. THESE ROOKIES AIN'T SO TOUGH. BUT THEY'RE BUILT WITH TOP FLIGHT TECHNOLOGY.

TOUGH ENOUGH TO TRASH YOU AND YOUR PALS, COSWELL.

IF YOU SHARE HIS PALTRY FIGHTING ABILITIES, YOUR DEFEAT WILL BE SWIFT, FIGHTER.

YOUR TECHNOLOGY IS BUT CRUDE MECHANICS. THIS AGE STILL HAS NO DEFENCE AGAINST THE ANCIENT ARTS OF MAGICK.

GOOD POINT, XAVIER. BUT THESE GUYS STILL PACK SOME PRETTY FANCY RAY GUNS.

KRAK!

IN ANY ERA, A GUN
MUST FIND ITS TARGET
TO BE EFFECTIVE.
PHASE SPEED!

MAYBE NOT, JETTA. OUR
BATTLE'S GIVEN THE ARENA
GUARDS TIME TO REGROUP.
NO WAY WE CAN REACH
THE AMMO STORE NOW.

UNLESS... THESE GUNS ARE
PRIMED AND LOADED.
THEY'RE ALL WE NEED TO FREE
SHADOW.

A USELESS ACTION! THE
WEAPONS ARE BIO-WELDED
TO THEIR BODIES. IT WOULD
TAKE MICRO-SURGERY
TO REMOVE THEM.

JON HOWARD

IT NEED
NOT TAKE SO
LONG...



COOL IT, SLASH.
IT'S JUST THE
SEVENTH CAVALRY
COME TO THE
RESCUE.

SHADOW!
YOU'RE
SAFE!



NAKANO INTERROGATED
US ABOUT THE BIO-KEY.
HIS WORK IS PROGRESSING
BUT INCOMPLETE.

WE WIPE AS MUCH AS WE
COULD FROM HIS FILES, BUT
HE MAY ALREADY BE WORKING
ON PROTOTYPE WEAPONS.

THEN WE GOTTA TRASH
WHAT HE DOES HAVE BEFORE
IT CAN DEVELOP INTO
OVERLORD TECHNOLOGY.

IS THIS BIO-KEY STUFF REALLY
SO DANGEROUS THAT WE SHOULD
GO BACK IN THERE?

IN THIS TIME, YES. IT COULD
NOT ONLY SOW THE SEED OF
FUTURE DESTRUCTION, BUT
CAUSE UNTOLD CARNAGE
IN THE PRESENT.

SLASH
STILL NOT
UNDERSTAND.

RUMBLE!

THEN LET ME
ENLIGHTEN YOU,
NEANDERTHAL.
IT'S REALLY
VERY SIMPLE.

BIO-KEY PLACES HARD MECHANICS UNDER DIRECT ORGANIC CONTROL.

NEURAL SENSORS SCAN MY MIND PATTERNS FOR BATTLE ORDERS.

NAVIGATION CONTROLLERS MAP MY CHOSEN FLIGHT PATH DIRECT FROM THE SURFACE OF MY BRAIN.

I CAN LOCK AND LAUNCH MISSILES WITH A THOUGHT AND A GLANCE. MACHINE AND MIND WORK IN COMPLETE HARMONY.

YOU CAME TO NAKANO INDUSTRIES TO STOP THE FUTURE OF BIO-KEY WEAPONS. YOU ARE TOO LATE.

THE FUTURE IS HERE!

NEXT: BRAK-KA-BOOOMM!

NEWS Zone

A CART BUILT FOR FOUR

J-CART BRINGS FRIENDS TOGETHER!

Playing Sega games on your own can be entertaining, but for a laugh and a half of full-cream fun there's nothing like taking on a friend - or three. Unfortunately, there are very few multi-player Sega games around. The few that are available can only be enjoyed by more than two players if you buy a special piece of hardware (such as Sega's Multi-Tap or Electronic Arts' 4-Way Play, at a cost of £25.00 and £20.00 respectively). So far only Tengen's Gauntlet IV works with both adaptors.

But wait! Codemasters have announced J-Cart for the Mega Drive. Every J-Cart comes with its own built-in four-way play facility, so as long as you have the friends (and Control Pads) you can enjoy the thrills and spills of multi-player action - and all for the price of the standard cartridge.

The first J-Cart release will be Tennis All-Stars in May. Two other J-Cart titles in production are Micro Machines 2 and Psycho Pinball, for release later this year.

The J-Cart adapter can't be used with any other cartridge, but the fact that a four-player option comes free with certain Codemasters' games shouldn't be sneered at.



Many hands make for more fun with Codemasters' J-Cart.



Tennis All-Stars - the first four-player J-Cart

BLASTING THE PAST

CLASSIC BLASTER HEADS FOR 8-BIT CONSOLES

Codemasters have at last set a release date for the Master System and Game Gear conversions of Dropzone, a shoot-'em-up along the lines of the classic Williams' arcade machine StarGate (the sequel to Defender).

The idea is to protect and rescue scientists, who are in constant danger of being abducted from a planet's surface and eaten by hungry aliens. You control a spaceman with a laser gun, a jet-pack, a limited supply of smart bombs and an invisibility cloak. There are no power-ups to collect or bonus levels to play - it's hard, fast and furious blasting action plain and simple, with plenty of points to score as you take on the relentless waves of bullet-spewing aggressors.

Dropzone may not look or sound up to much, but it's every bit as playable now as it was when it was first released on the Commodore 64 and Atari 800 in 1985. Just how well the Sega versions shape up remains to be seen in June when Dropzone is released.



VIRTUA FIGHTER STORMS THE ARCADES

THE FUTURE OF SIMULATED COMBAT?

Have you seen Sega's Virtua Fighter in the arcades yet? Woooah! It's some mean machine - perhaps the best one-on-one combat simulator yet. What makes Virtua Fighter stand out from the Street Fighter II crowd is its television-like presentation. The eight characters are built from polygons, which makes them look as though they are carved from wood, but their movements are amazing! It's a new level of realism. A 'camera' follows the action and somehow it manages to zoom in and out and pan around to present a film-like view without ever getting in the way.

The fighters are as follows . . . Akira is best described as a Ryu-like character, Kage is a ninja, Pai's a sort of Chun Li-ish type, Jacky's a blond, spiky-haired chap, Jeffry is bearded with dreadlocks, Sarah's a lean, mean lady, Lau's a despicable-looking dude with a moustache and a pony-tail, and Wolf has pointy teeth.

Control buttons have been kept to a minimum - one for punches, one for kicks and one for defence - but many different combinations are possible. The characters all have their own variations of half-a-dozen or so special moves (such as a throw and the ability to jump on a fallen opponent - a sight to behold!) plus their unique 'powers'.

A conversion of Virtua Fighter for Sega's new super-duper Saturn machine is happening right now, and it's said to be almost as good as the arcade machine! A Mega Drive version will only be considered if Virtua Racing is successful when it's released this month (some technical experts predict that it would have to be priced at almost

£100 to cover the cost of the Sega Virtual Processor inside the cartridge, which helps the Mega Drive run the 3D stuff at a playable speed).

In the meantime, look out for the Virtua Fighter arcade machine - it's as impressive to watch as it is to play, and it could redefine the way some people think about arcade action. . .

IMAGINATIVE IMAGINEER

NEW TITLES TARGETED AT MEGA DRIVE

As mentioned in STC a month ago, Imagineer have at least six games in development for the Mega Drive, kicking off with *Kick Off III* (seen here) in May. So far only one other title has been announced, and that's *Wolfenstein*, for release later this year.

Wolfenstein first appeared for the IBM PC compatible computers in 1992 when it received a strong cult following. It's an atmospheric three-dimensional shooting gallery where the action is viewed as though the player were there. Captain William J 'BJ' Blazkowicz is an American soldier trapped deep in the belly of a German dungeon during the Second World War. Armed only with a knife and a hand-grenade, he must negotiate Castle Wolfenstein's maze-like floors (complete with secret passages) and take on the swarms of German soldiers in an attempt to escape and prevent an Allied defeat. Fortunately, along the way he can collect more powerful weaponry including two types of machine gun (and one of them is a real beefy beast).

The 3D blasting action of *Wolfenstein* on the IBM PC compatibles (and the Mega Drive is looking very similar).



Kick Off III: created by Acclaim and released by Imagineer.

PLUG IN AND PLAY?

IS A 'UNIVERSAL' VIRTUA CART ON THE WAY?

Sonic The Comic would never stoop so low as to blow mere speculation out of proportion for the sake of a story. But here is a morsel of gossip that we hope has fallen from a veritable banquet table . . .

Rumour has it that Sega has been considering the possibility of releasing *Virtua Racing* as a plug-through cartridge. This would mean Sega selling a special cartridge featuring the new Sega Virtual Processor (used to drive the 3D polygon shapes), then the *Virtua Racing* cartridge - and theoretically further Virtua releases - would be purchased separately and plugged straight in to the SVP cartridge. Obviously, there would be an extra one-off cost for the SVP cartridge, but it would mean that the price of *Virtua Racing* - and subsequent polygon-based releases - would be kept to a more desirable level (see *Virtua Fighter* item).

The bad news is that the plug-through approach may not be implemented because it opens up the possibility of other development teams utilising Sega's technology for their own polygon-driven games. That said, the potential for decent 3D games could extend the life of the Mega Drive, especially when you consider that publishers are already turning their attention to Sega's new Saturn machine. Existing polygon-based games such as *LHX Attack Chopper* and *Hard Driving*, which are slow and clumsy, would benefit enormously from the extra processing power (though those titles would need to be rewritten).

Fingers crossed that Sega plumps for the plug-through system.

SHORT BURSTS

NEWS

ACCLAIM ACTIVITIES

Don't hold your breath . . . There we were expecting to see Acclaim's new Mega Drive soccer simulation, *Ryan Giggs's Soccer*, in January but it turned out that its release was around Easter . . . Acclaim's Mega Drive American Football simulation *NFL Quarterback Club* (written by Park Place of *John Madden* fame) has been put back to June . . . *Maximum Carnage*, the new *Spider-Man* adventure for the Mega-Drive, is now due for release in September.

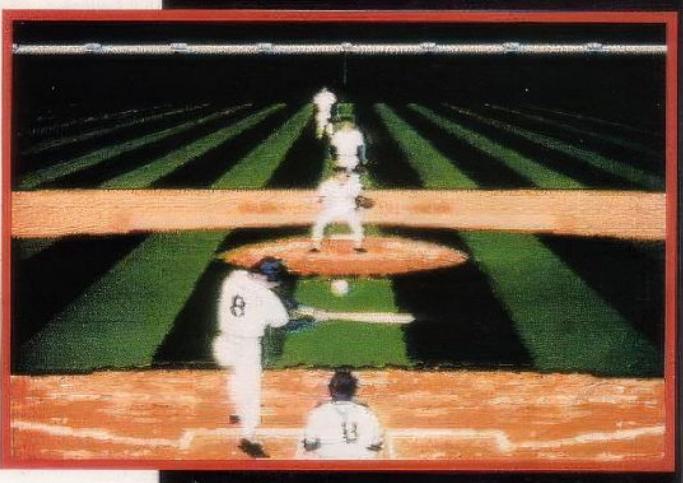
And from the 'old' Acclaim titles to the new . . . In the same month, and also for the Mega Drive, we can expect to see two new games starring key figures from *The Simpsons* television show. In *Virtual Bart* - surprise - Bart Simpson enters the wacky world of Virtual Reality. "It's very bizarre," says an Acclaim spokesperson, "but that's all I can say for now." *Itchy And Scratchy* on the other hand is a platform-based affair in which the cat and mouse duo remain the best of enemies and attempt to beat each other senseless - all in the best possible taste of course.

Finally, from Acclaim for the Mega Drive in September, there's *Stargate* which is based on the new big-budget science fiction film directed by Roland Emmerich (anyone remember the terrible 'Moon 44'?) starring Kurt Russell as a futuristic soldier.

SONY'S SOCCER SOLACE

Sports fans who are sick to the back teeth with World Cup soccer overkill may wish to seek solace in yet another addition, the already over-subscribed Baseball and American Football scenes . . . Sony Electronic Publishing is releasing *ESPN Baseball Tonight* and *ESPN Sunday Night NFL* for the Mega Drive and Mega-CD this month. Both simulations feature 28 teams of digitised athletes plus full leagues, seasons and tournaments, and unique footage and commentary from the ESPN sports network.

ESPN Baseball Tonight - and every night!



WINNERS' TAKE ALL!

STC's 'Winners' Take All' Tomy competition back in issue 13 proved to be another big hit with you Boomers. So without further ado, congratulations to the following prize winning entrants whose details were pulled from one of Sonic's old power sneakers.



15 Top Prize Winners

will each receive a Bumper Prize Bundle of:

- Supersonic Pinball Game
- Cuddly Sonic (40cm)
- Cuddly Tails (35cm)

Christopher Brain, Blackfriars Lane, Oxford.
Matthew Doyle, Edinburgh, Scotland.
J. Franklin, Germarsthorn, Dyfed, Wales.
Daniel Hyde, Richmondshire, North Yorkshire.
Sarah Jarrett, Solihull, West Midlands.
Stephen Klineagh, Aspley, Nottingham.
John Louis, South Cheltenham, Gloucester.
Dean Moore, Newport, Gwent, Wales.
Gholsey Newson, Hull, South Yorkshire.
Andron Oakes, Poytherton, Somerset.
Ryan Pape, Bramfield, Essex.
Wayne Potts, Hartford, Herts.
Disney Roach, Langney, East Sussex.
Mark Rutherford, Southampton, Merseyside.
Ricky Gostling, South Wigston, Leicestershire.

The circles indicate where the 10 differences occurred, as spotted by the eagle-eyed winners.

30 2nd Prize Winners will each receive:

* Medium-size Cuddly Sonic (25cm)

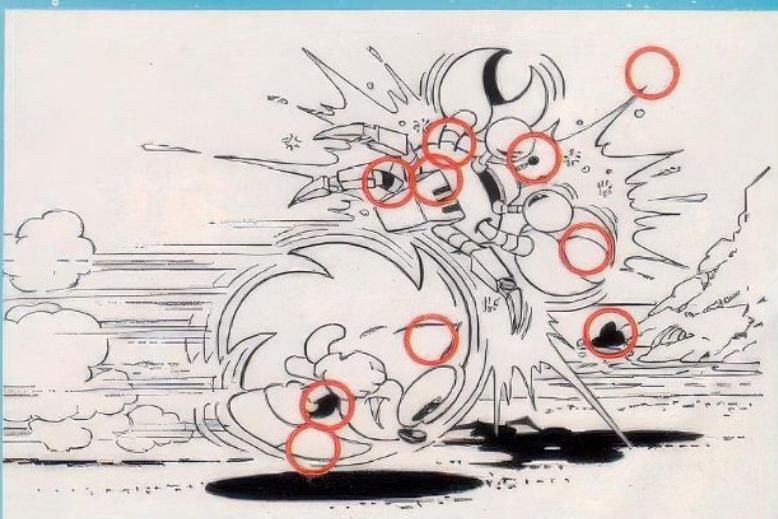
Gareth Allon, Radcliffe, Manchester.
Allen Bartlett, Tomatin, Inverness, Scotland.
Sam Berch, Shifnal, Shropshire.
O'Brien, Knocknagoshel, Co. Kerry, Ireland.
Matthew Bieck, Kettering, Northampton.
Ricky Bone, Amesbury, Wiltshire.
Chris & Simon Caddick, Stoerness, Kent.
Dorina Cameron, Edzell, Angus, Scotland.
A. Cleaves, Oldham, Lancs.
Andrew Halli, Garforth, Leeds.
Sarah Haynes, Whitton, Twickenham.
Denny Holmes, Woodford Halse, Northants.
Christopher Jones, Cheshunt, Herts.
Brett Keogh, Wolverhampton, W. Midlands.
John Lovell, Erdington, Birmingham.
Aiden McBride, Orrell Park, Liverpool.
O. McNamara, Willes of Milton, Stirling, Scotland.
K. Milne, King's Lynn, Norfolk.
Matthew Myntons, Frinton-on-Sea, Essex.
Paul Napleton, Abbeywood, London.
Sam Oakes, Chapeltown, Sheffield.
Chris Ramsey, Newport, Gwent, South Wales.
John Reynham, Bentleeb, Essex.
Robert Rosa, Stamford, Lincoln.
David Soden, Kilkeel, Derry, Northern Ireland.
Sam Welsh, Reading, Berkshire.
Kathleen Trachomonov, Littleover, Derby.
Paul Ward, Hackenthorpe, Sheffield.
Andrew West, Langthorpe, Leicestershire.
Duncan Willcox, Greenwich, London.

40 Runners-Up

will each receive:

* Sonic Water Wizard Games

Aidan Ashton, St Helens, Merseyside.
Andrew Attwells, Accrington, Lancs.
Thomas Brimble, Cleethorpes, 8 Humberside.
Ian Button, Thirlmere, Northants.
Alan Bushell, St. Helens, Huddersfield.
Matthew Capewell, Halewood, Birmingham.
Tim Caesar, Canterbury, Kent.
Dallin Chalk, Duddingston, Edinburgh, Scotland.
Amy Clarke, Addlestone, Addlestone, Surrey.
Graham Clapham, Old, Norfolk.
J. Glenian, Geaport, Merthyr.
Andrew Corlett, Maldon, Essex.
Sebastien D'Orsi, Orpington, Kent.
Robert Duckworth, Burnley, Lancs.
Sarah English, Southmead, Bristol.
Ben French, Lowestoft, Suffolk.
Daniel Gibson, Walsgrave, Coventry.
Andrew Griggs, Broom, Lincoln.
Jayson Green, Jarrow, Tyne & Wear.
Ray Harten, East Ham, London.
Michael Ringler, Dudley, West Midlands.
Daniel Hughes, Prestatyn, Olwyd, Wales.
Nathan Hibbit, Downham Market, Norfolk.
Barry Knights, Seaton Sluice, Darlington.
Eddie Luck, Reading, Berkshire.
Michael Moon, Ryde, Cheshire.
Ian McLaren, Claethorpe, South Humberside.
Stephen Montgomery, Falkirk, Scotland.
Gareth Moore, East Holgate, York.
John Nutt, Peterborough, Cambridgeshire.
Christopher Robinson, London, West Yorkshire.
Robert Bentley, Newmarket, Suffolk.
Ben Searle, Petersfield, Hants.
Garry Shields, Spring Hill, Birmingham.
Ronan Smith, Newry, Co. Down, N. Ireland.
Drew Stitt, Dumfries, Dumfries, Scotland.
Christopher Willis, Holbeck, Leeds.
Paul Waller, Newark, Nottingham.
Michael Wilcox, Ongar, Essex.
Chris & Ian Woolnough, Sholing, Southampton.



Shinobi

The
ART OF WAR

Part 5

JOE MUSASHI, DISGUISED AS A WARRIOR OF THE EVIL NEO ZEED, IS TRAPPED IN A SEALED SECTION OF CORRIDOR IN THE NEO ZEED HQ.

YOU ARE A FOOL, MUSASHI...

YOU FORGOT THE SAGE SUN-TZU'S FUNDAMENTAL RULE...

DON'T WASTE YOUR STRENGTH. THERE IS NO ESCAPE.

IF YOU WISH TO BATTLE THE NEO ZEED, FIRST YOU MUST PROVE YOURSELF WORTHY.

RIPP!

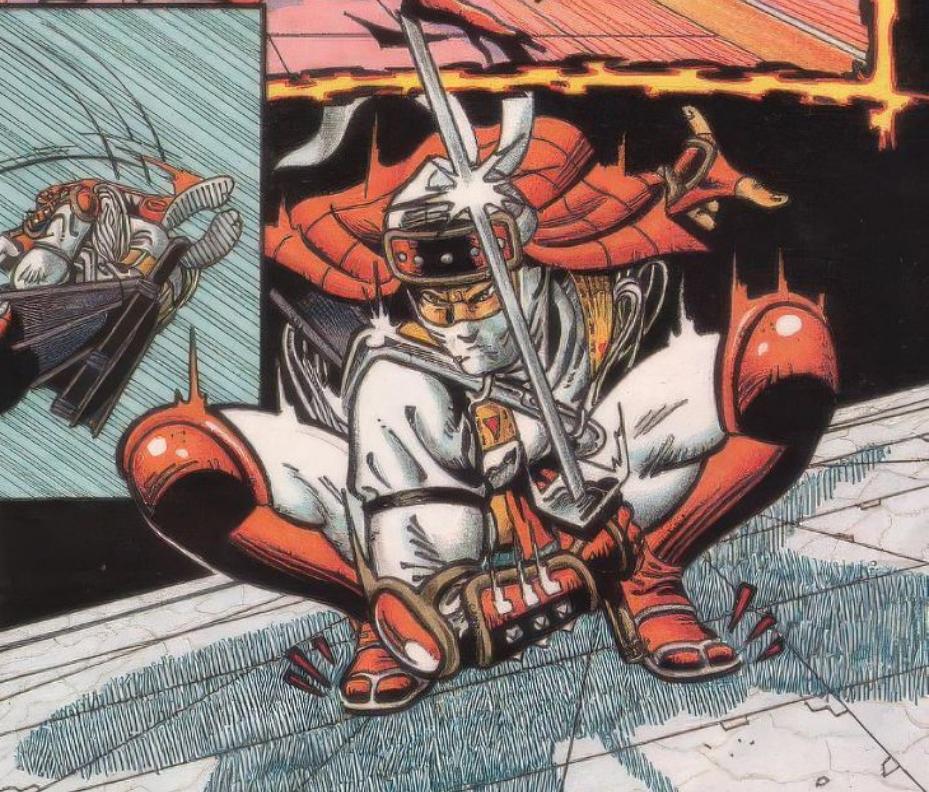
"NEVER BRITTLE AN ENEMY ON HIS HOME GROUND!"

BEFORE YOU, A SIMPLE
BATTLE SIMULATION. ALL
OUR SENIOR OFFICERS
MUST SUCCESSFULLY PASS
THROUGH BEFORE THEY
PASS UP THE LADDER
OF PROMOTION.

AND IN
CASE YOU'RE
NOT FEELING
PROPERLY
MOTIVATED...

HERE'S A LITTLE
INCENTIVE!

FWORRR!



MOUNT HOTAKA,
HONSHU. FIVE
YEARS EARLIER.

ATTACK
ME.

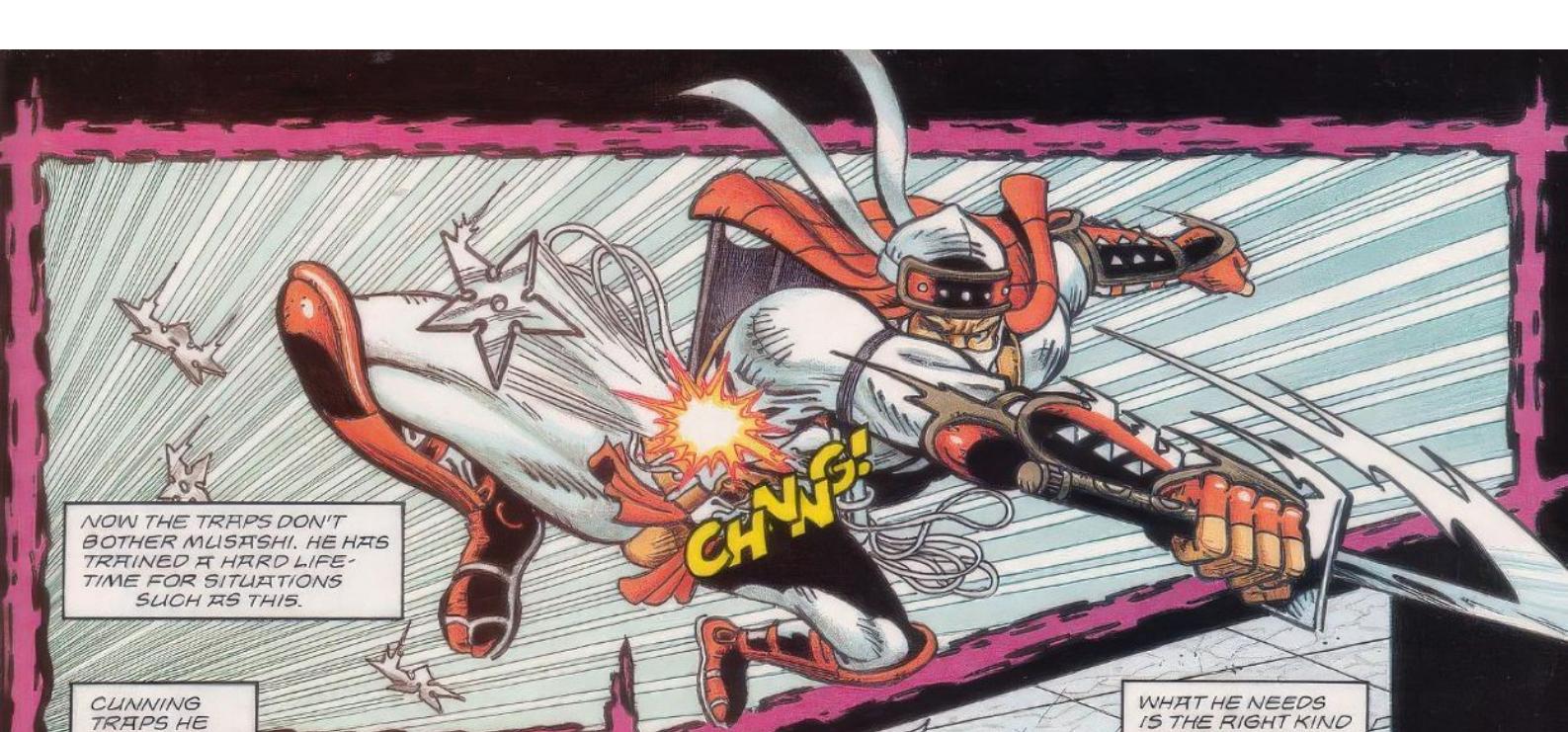
KEEEA!!

NO,
BUT YOU'RE
DEAD.

IT MATTERS
NOT WHAT AN ENEMY
THINKS OF YOU. USE
ANY TRICKERY TO
WIN.

ONLY THEN
WILL YOU LIVE AS
LONG AS ME.

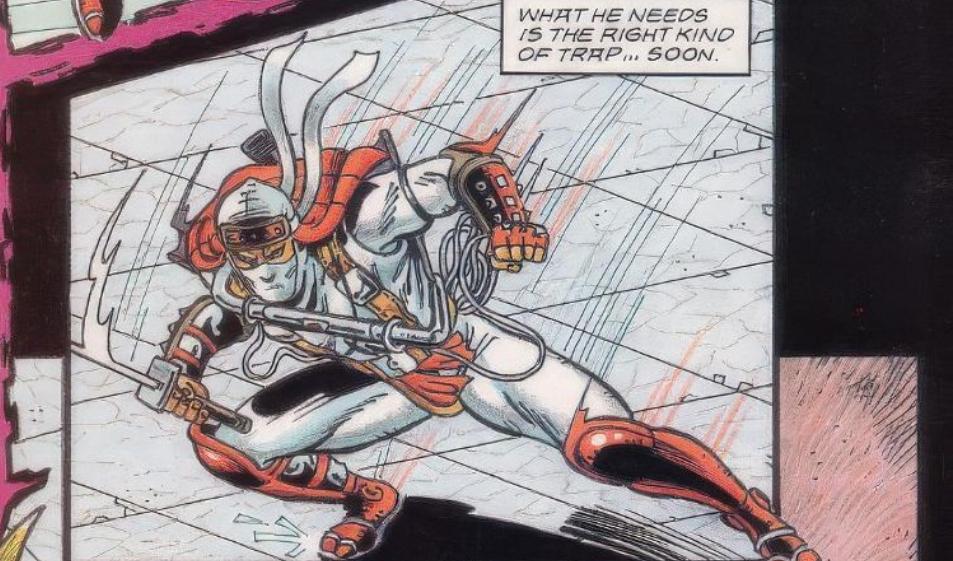
SENSEI!
ARE YOU
HURT?



NOW THE TRAPS DON'T
BOther MUSASHI. HE HAS
TRAINED A HARD LIFE-
TIME FOR SITUATIONS
SUCH AS THIS.



CUNNING
TRAPS HE
CAN HANDLE,
BUT NOT
FOREVER.



WHAT HE NEEDS
IS THE RIGHT KIND
OF TRAP... SOON.



CHNG!



HEAVY
NERVE
GAS...



PERFECT.

TON
HANAWARA



TAKE THIS
USELESS FOOL'S
CARCASS OUT
OF HERE.

NEXT ISSUE: NEO ZEED NIGHTMARE

Q

Zone

Q is for Question.
Q is for Query.
Q is for Quandary.
Enter the Q zone for hints, tips, and help with your favourite Sega games.

Q Zone presents a new service for the masses of Boomers who deluge STC requesting help with all the various Sonic The Hedgehog games. Q Zone will be taking individual Sonic games and putting them under the microscope with detailed instructions on how to get through the various zones, special stages, bosses, etc. Stand by to have your Sonic problems solved!

SONIC Solved

Sonic Chaos



Part 1 - THE ZONES

TURQUOISE HILL ZONE

ACT 1

An easy course to start you off.

Things to look out for:-

- Two pairs of Sonic's new Rocket Shoes.
- Hidden TVs with Invincibility and an Extra Life.
- A Mobius Strip.
- A high ledge that leads to a secret hoard of four TVs containing rings.

Things to watch out for:-

- Spring Snails which bounce you upwards and usually into a sneaky Buzz.
- A Hidden passage that drops off onto spikes.
- Springs hidden in the ground that suddenly push you up when you walk over them.
- Spiteful spikes that pop out of the ground.
- Stingers that loiter in mid-air just waiting to let you have it!

ACT 2

Things to look out for:-

- TV's containing two sets of Rocket Shoes, an Invincibility, an Extra Life.
- Two connected Mobius Strips.

Things to watch out for:-

- Stingers.
- Spikes.
- Walking poppers.
- Hidden springs.

As in Act 1 this stage has a lot to offer and you should check out the higher and lower platforms

ACT 3

It's Boss Time!

Make sure you have collected any rings you can along the way to this boss.

You get to tango with two Mobius strips, Spikes, sneaky spring traps where you fall into a chamber and use springs to launch yourself out. For those of you with a hankering for the unexpected there is a TV with ten rings to be found.

As for defeating the Big Bad Boss, wait for Part 4 of this Sonic Chaos guide.



GIGALOPOLIS ZONE

ACT 1

This stage is ENORMOUS!

You start to get a feel for the sheer size and challenge awaiting you in Sonic Chaos. Gigalopolis has a starry feel to it and the goodies are just packed in for you to discover.

Things to look out for:-

- TV's abound. Look carefully for 16



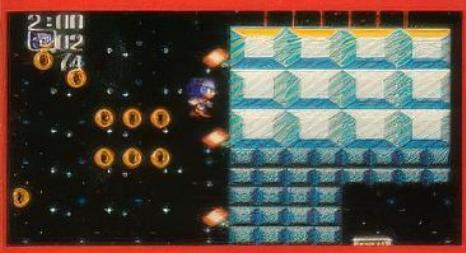
containing rings, an extra life, Invincibility and Rocket Shoes.

Things to watch out for:-

• Hidden floor springs.
• Extended loops.
• Spikes.

Plus a new nasty to take out or avoid.

If you want to get the best out of Sonic Chaos remember that you can usually go through a



stage in around three ways - top, middle and bottom. You are sure to find goodies hidden away above or below you as you get further into the game.

ACT 2

Things to look out for:-

Plenty of rings to collect, many of them in the top third of the stage.
TVs with - one Sonic life, three pairs of Rocket Shoes, one Invincibility and eight with rings.
Hidden chambers packed with rings and springs

as well as loops, tunnels, slip sliding walkways, spikes, and a fast chamber with springs on the ceiling and floor (my favourite stretch is the top of a tunnel with 54 (yes 54!) rings scattered along its length).

ACT 3

Time to take on another of Robotnik's cronies. Getting to him is easy - you just follow your (or rather, Sonic's) nose.

You will see a moving platform just before you go into one of three tunnels. Jump on it and leap off onto the top of the loop to your left. You will not be able to see yourself but you will hear that you hit something in the centre of the loop. Jump straight up and break it to get the Fast Shoes, then run hard right to the boss.



**NEXT ISSUE:
SONIC CHAOS PART 2**

SLEEPING EGG ZONE

ACT 1

This is a pretty weird looking zone.

Make your way across by breaking through blocks, as well as taking out those ever present nasties!

Things to look out for:-

- There are TVs galore but you'll find they are getting harder to reach!
- Look for two TVs containing Rocket Shoes - one with an Invincibility and five with rings.
- Sonic's new Pogo stick. This allows him to bounce high and then leap off at the top of the bounce to even higher ledges!

Things to watch out for:-

Evil new nasties!

ACT 2

Most goodies in this zone are in the top third of the stage. Watch your step as there are more than enough nasties ready to bump you off! The route through is tricky. Learn to use the Pogo in tight spots.

Things to look out for:-

- TVs: Invincibility [two], rings [ten], Rocket Shoes [one] and an extra life [one].

Things to watch out for:-

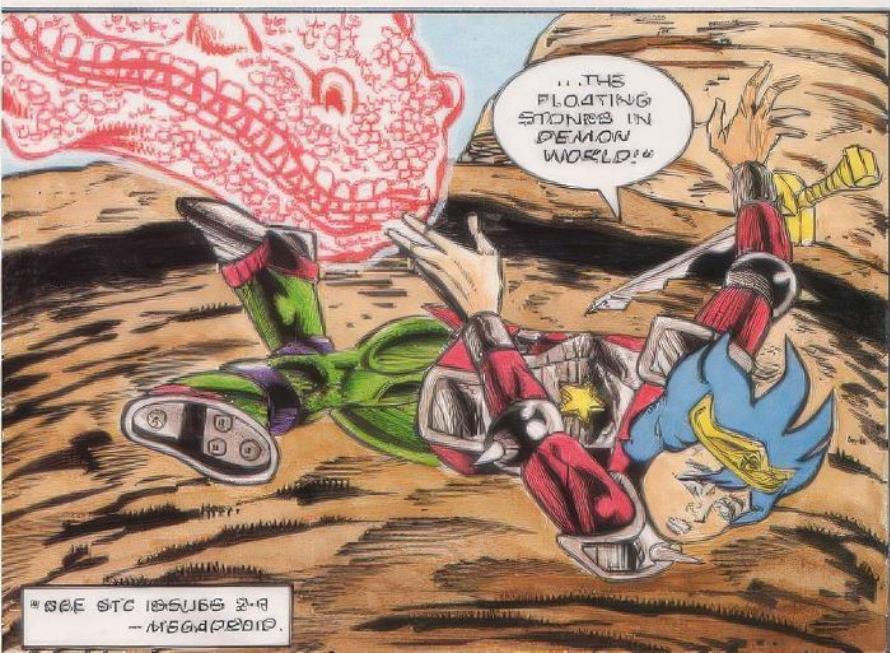
- Bricks.
- Floor springs.
- Bounding Badniks.
- Lethal floor traps gaps.

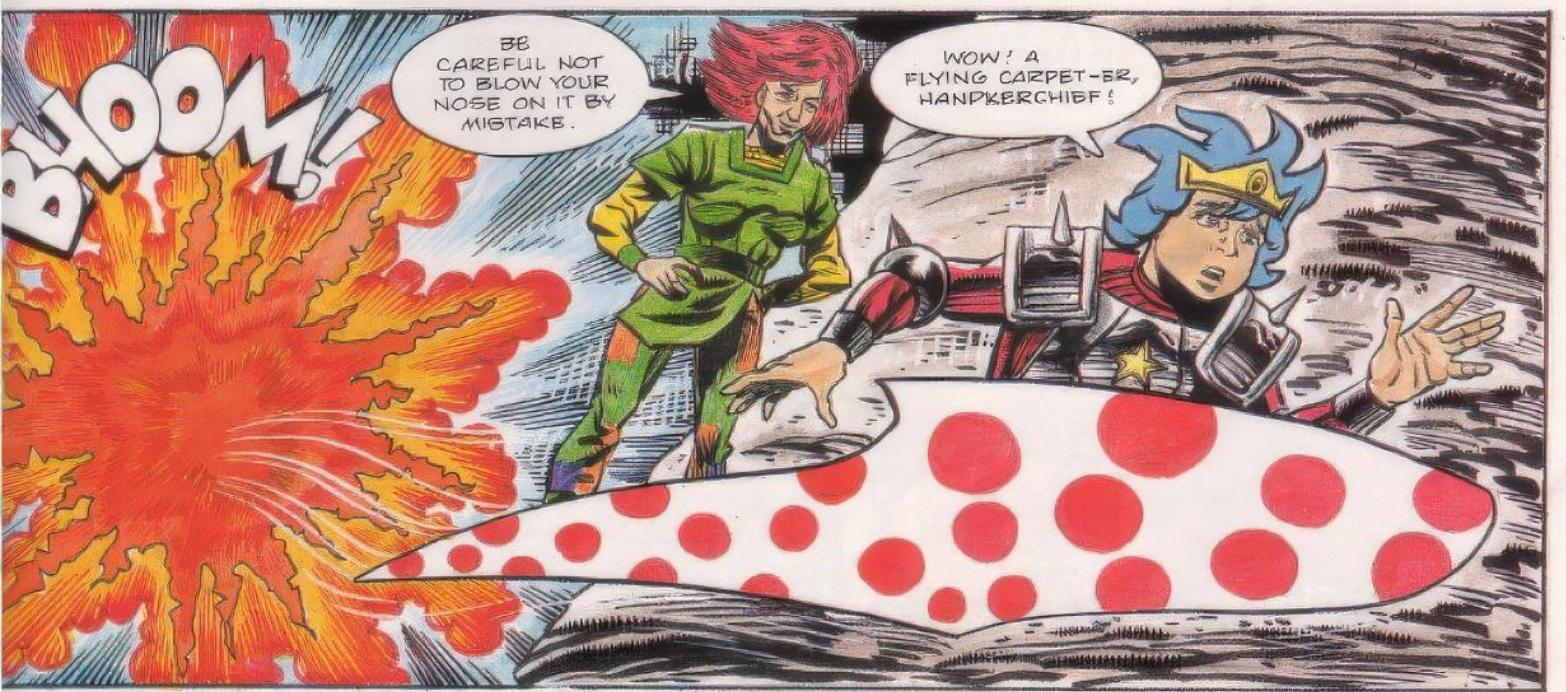
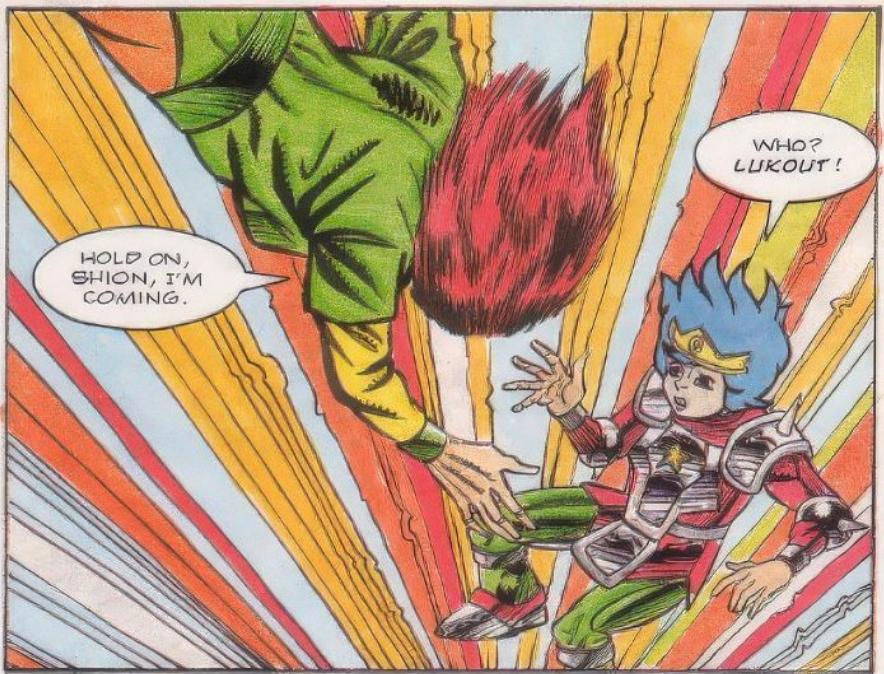
ACT 3

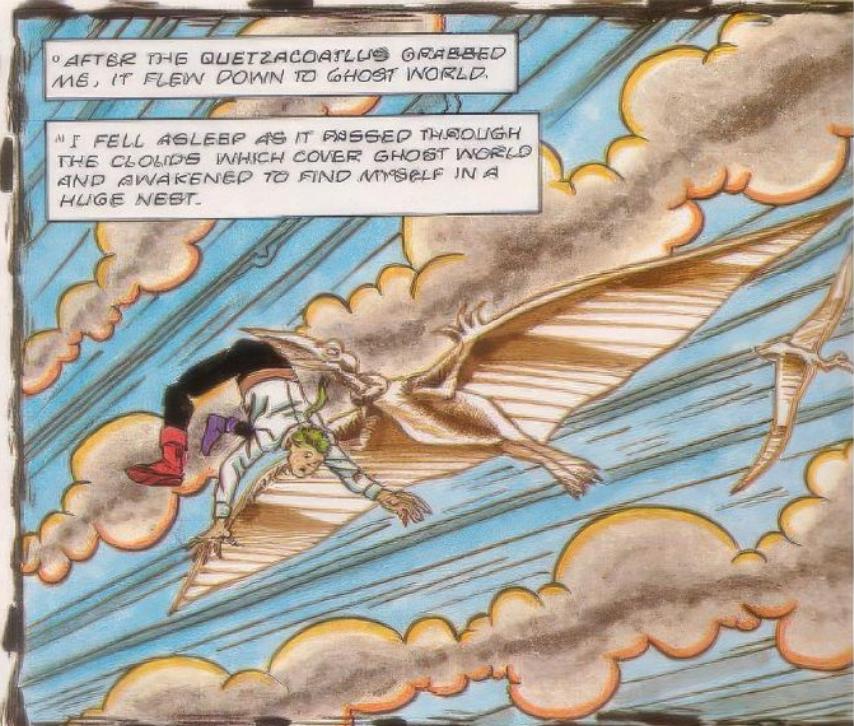
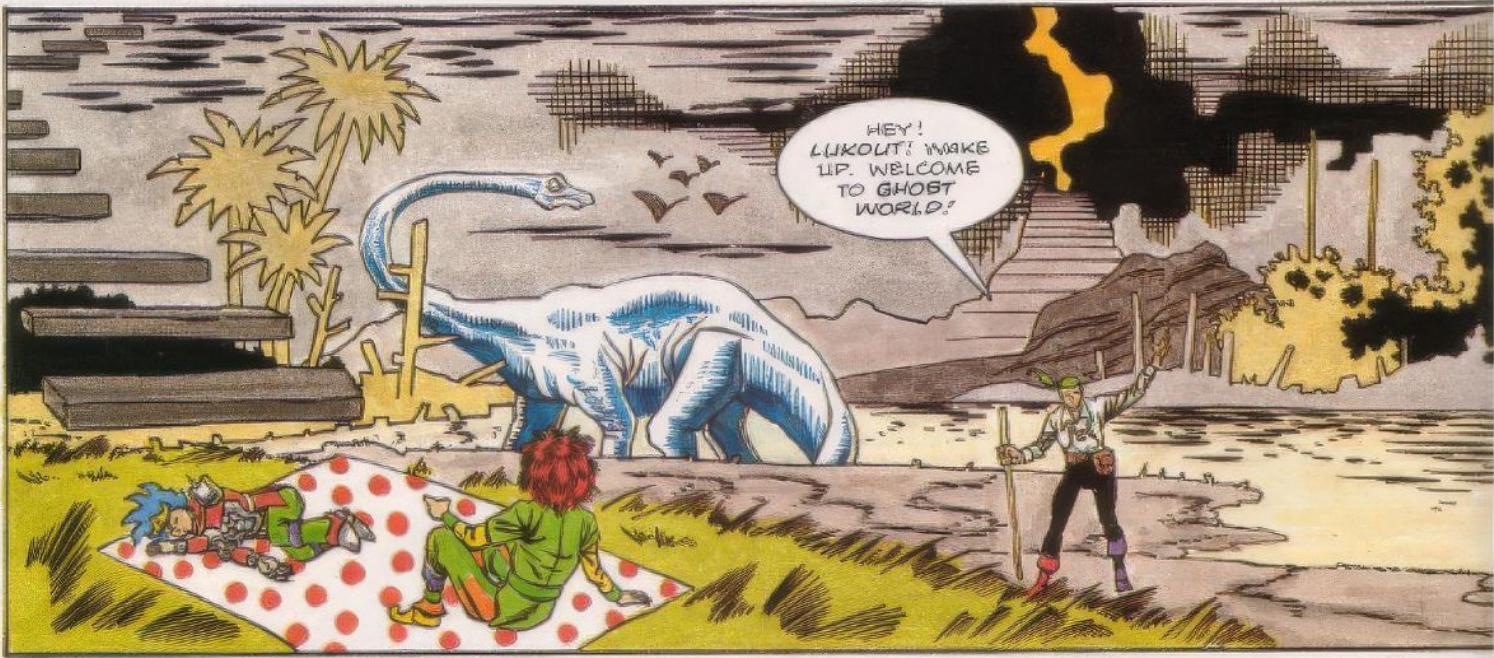
Things to look out for:-

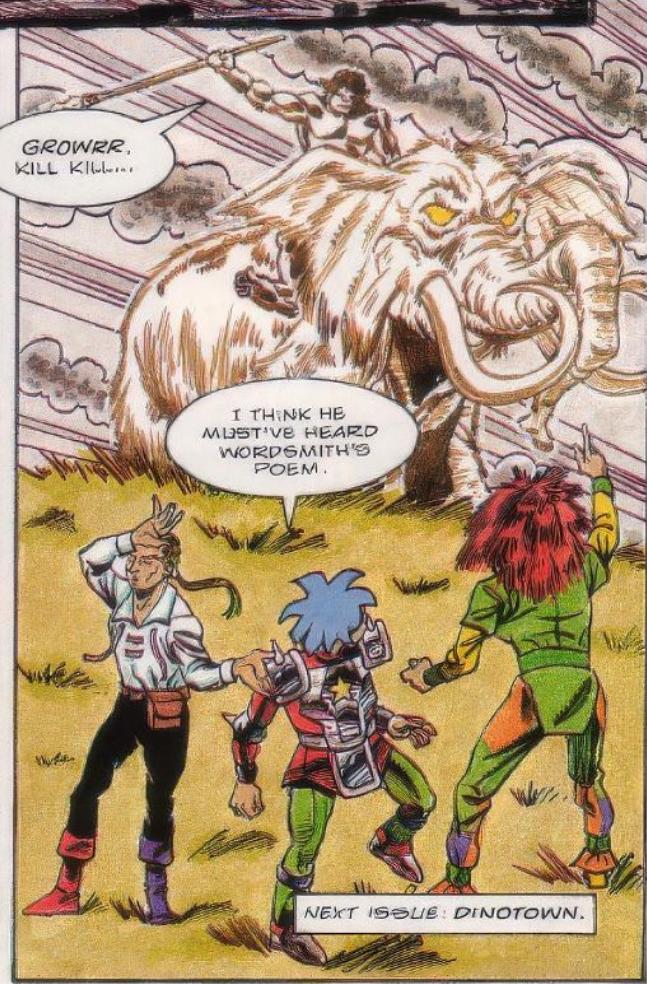
- TV with an Extra Life.
- A boulder bumper to zoom off.
- Four TVs with rings.

At the end of the stage lies your first real battle with Dr Robotnik and, boy, is he going to be one tough cookie to crack!









SPEEDLINES

Dash off a letter, draw a quick sketch... In short, sound off to Megadroid about anything you want to do with STC, Sega or the meaning of life as we know it!

Send your letters and drawings to: Speedlines, Sonic The Comic, 25/31 Tavistock Place, London WC1H 9BU.

Write your name, address and Sega system you use (MD, MCD, MG or GG) clearly on your letter or drawing. Every one printed on this page wins a Segasational prize! Megadroid rejects that drawings cannot be returned or correspondence enclosed into...



One For The Ode

I love Sonic the comic
And those who don't are moronic!
Sonic never fails in his quest,
That blue hedgehog is by far the best,
But the way he treats Tails is quite chronic!
Carla Padmore, Anstey, Leics. MD owner.
Sonic Water Fun Game Winner.



Thanks Carla for your ditty
Even though it was quite bitty
Until the next time that you write
I'll keep your memory burning bright.

How Much Is That Dino In The...?

Dear STC,

I have a query about the price of the Jurassic Park MD game that was reviewed way back in issue eight of STC. In the review the price was quoted as £29.99, but I have seen it in the shops for £49.99. I am sure it is the same game so which price is right?

Sally Antell, Castle Cary, Somerset.
Sonic Water Fun Game Winner.

£49.99 is the right price. Those humes-who-think-they're-in-charge claim that the prices alter occasionally. Typical hume excuse, if you ask me Sally.

Recognise this rebel with two tails?
Stuart Hutchins,
Shorecliffe,
Folkestone.
Sonic Water Fun Game Winner.



Doubting Alan

Dear STC,

I have been an avid reader of yours since issue three and have found STC to be the best magazine I've seen. The only problem, however, is your letters page. You have pointed out that there isn't enough room to print every letter and yet sometimes you make up your own letters, claiming they're from Doctor Robotnik.

Alan Brooks, Bletchley, Milton Keynes.
MD owner.
Sonic Water Fun Game Winner.

These are pseudonyms, Alan, sent in by humorous humes.

Calm Palmer

Dear STC,

I thought that the Tails strip: *The Land Beyond* was cool, but was disappointed when it finished in issue 21. Also, I thought you might be interested to know that whenever I get angry I read your comic and it calms me down.
Nicholas Palmer, Compton, Surrey.
Sonic Water Fun Game Winner.
P.S. I've enclosed 10p for Megadroid.

As much as it pains me, please refrain from sending money, as it only gets passed by the editor who's saving up for a holiday to Bridlington.
(Incidentally, he assures me that Tails will return.)



Never mind the...Boozed-up Rat, here's Sonic the Punk.
Lee Hutchins, Tile Cross, Birmingham.
Sonic Water Fun Game Winner.

Get in Print + Win a Prize!

It's true! Every letter and drawing printed on this page wins a Segasational prize! One of these fabulous Tomy Sonic The Hedgehog Water Fun Games can be yours. Fill it with water and pump the button to see if you can help Sonic catch all the power rings. It's challenging, it's portable, it's fun and it's wet! The Sonic Water Fun Game is just part of a range of megatastic Sonic products from Tomy which can be bought at toy shops and department stores. If you have problems finding a stockist in your area phone the Tomy Care Line on 0708 872287.



NEXT ISSUE...

Sonic

SETS SAIL ON THE SLAVE SHIP

ETERNAL CHAMPIONS

AND

SHINOBI

REACH THEIR THRILLING CLIMAX

WONDER BOY

GHOST-BUSTING THE DINOS

PLUS

**MORE REVIEWS, NEWS,
Q ZONE - PART 2 OF THE
SONIC CHAOS SOLUTION**

Sonic

THE COMIC 24

ON SALE SATURDAY, 16th APRIL.

£1.10

DATA STRIP

Fill in & send to:
Sonic The Comic,
25/31 Tavistock Place,
London WC1H 9SU

WHO ARE YOU?

Tell us your name, age & address.

NAME

ADDRESS

.....

.....

AGE

HOT-SHOTS ONLY!

Enter your high score or
achievement here!

GAME

SCORE / ACHIEVEMENT

.....

.....

SYSTEM:- (please tick)

MD MS GG NCD

GAME INTO STRIP

What SEGA game would you like to see
as a STC strip in the future?

I THINK

.....
would make a great comic
strip in STC

MEGA HITS THIS ISSUE!

List your three favourite stories
in this issue in order of
preference

1.....

2.....

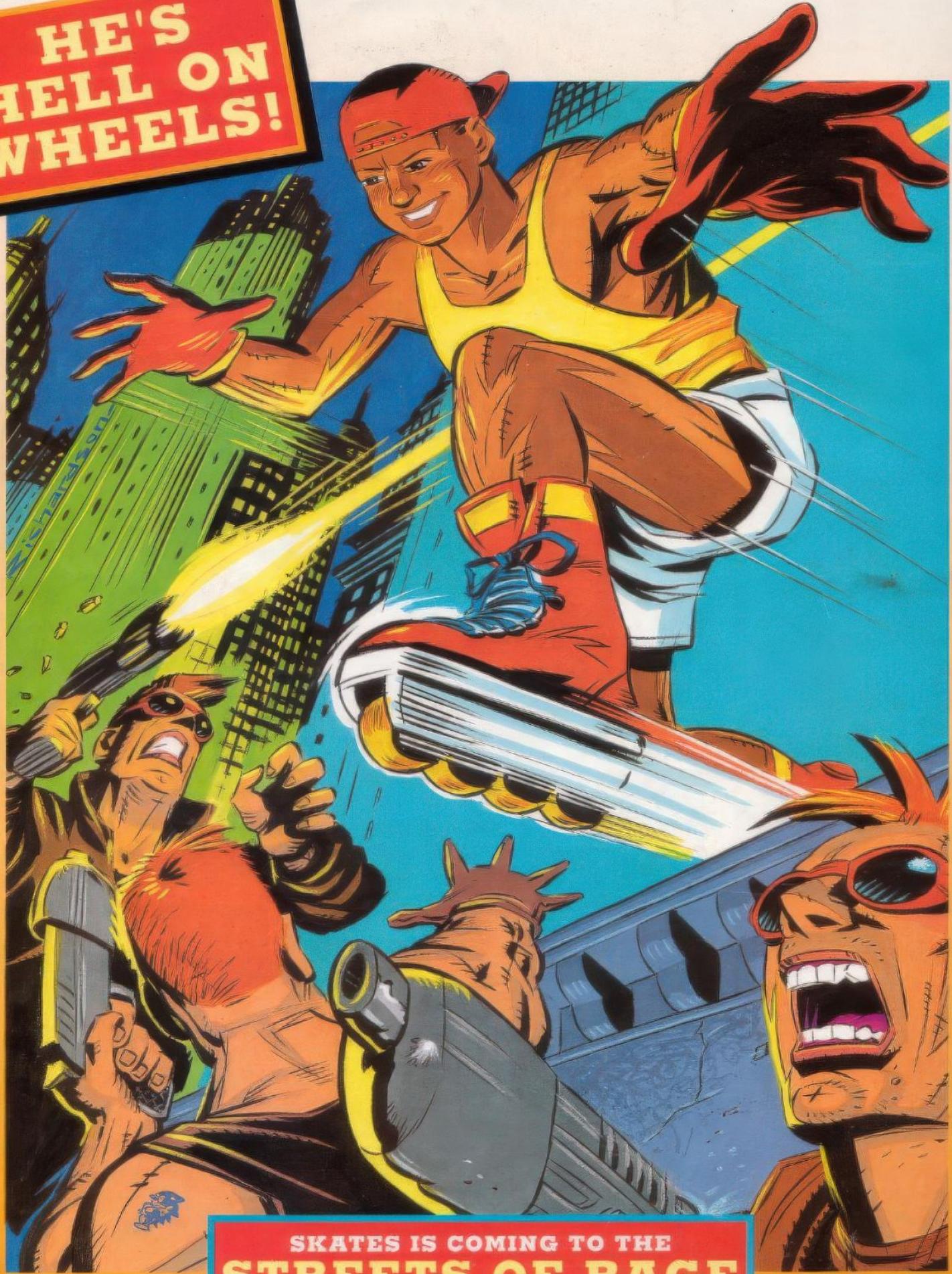
3.....

HOW DO YOU RATE ISSUE 23

OF STC?



**HE'S
HELL ON
WHEELS!**



SKATES IS COMING TO THE
STREETS OF RAGE
MISS STC 25 · IF YOU DARE!